

## **SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN AND CURFEW**

1. Children are our most important resource and most profound responsibility. In order to safeguard their welfare and security, we have established minimum guidelines for the care and supervision of our children. This policy applies to all military personnel assigned to and/or residing on White Sands Missile Range and civilian employees who reside on the installation who have dependent children younger than high school.

a. Children Left Unattended in Vehicles: No child under the age of nine shall be left alone in any vehicle at any time.

b. Out of School/Home Alone Policy:

(1) Children ages 5 years and younger require constant, direct supervision at all times. These children must be in direct visual contact and will not be left alone at any time.

(2) Children ages 6 through 10 years (grades 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>) require continual on-site adult supervision. The person providing supervision must be constantly available and must ensure that the child remains in the designated safe area. If a child in this age group is not responsible or mature enough to remain within these guidelines, then the child must be supervised in the manner prescribed for younger children.

(3) Children ages 11 through 13 years (Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) may be left alone for short periods of time, but no longer than three hours. The responsible adult must be aware of the child's location and activities. While alone, these children must have an emergency plan and a name and telephone number of a responsible adult they can call on if needed. If a child in this age group is not responsible or mature enough to remain within these guidelines, then the child must be supervised in the manner for one of the younger age groups.

(4) Children ages 14 through 17 years (Grades 9-12) may be left alone for longer periods. They must have an emergency plan with name and telephone number of a responsible adult they can call on if needed. If a child in this age group is not responsible or mature enough to remain within these guidelines, then the child must be supervised in the manner for one of the younger age groups. Children ages 13-15 will not be left alone overnight.

c. Curfew: Children will be in their homes or a responsible adults' home during the following hours:

(1) Children 12 years of age and under will be inside their own or someone else's quarters between 2200 and 0600 Sunday through Thursday and 2300 and 0600 Friday, Saturday and holidays.

(2) Children 13 through 17 years of age will be inside their own or someone else's quarters between 2300 and 0600 Sunday through Thursday and between 2400 and 0600 Friday, Saturday and holidays.

(3) Exceptions include being in the supervision of a responsible adult over age 21; returning home from a community or school organized function; returning home from a Youth Service program; while performing official employment; or responding to a bona fide emergency

d. Supervision of children by other children:

(1) No child under 12 will be allowed to supervise or baby-sit younger children.

(2) Children aged 13-17 may be responsible for younger children for reasonable periods of time, but not overnight. They must have an emergency plan and must be developmentally capable and mature enough to care for younger children. Youth on WSMR should attend Child/Youth Services (CYS) installation babysitter training. The CYS Central Registry office will maintain a referral list of trained youth baby-sitters ages 13-17 years old for parents.

e. Other options:

(1) To help parents minimize the conflict between parental responsibilities and work requirements, White Sands offers a full range of Child and Youth programs to include the Child Development Services, School-Age Services, Middle School/Teen Programs, Youth Sports and Fitness Programs, CYS Instructional Programs, and Family Child Care.

(2) These programs are accessible to children from school and housing areas.

(3) Elementary school children (Grades 1-5) may walk unaccompanied to activity options with parental permission.

(4) To increase parental choice options, the CYS Resource and Referral Office also provides information to parents about available off-post supervised activities and care options through schools, youth organizations and other agencies. Anyone needing assistance in identifying child care and supervision options should contact the CYS Resource and Referral Office at 105 Twin Cities, phone number 678-7093.

2. Failure to comply with these policies may result in a finding of child neglect and/or abuse. Child neglect resulting from lack of appropriate supervision is considered inappropriate conduct and can result in termination of the privilege of occupying Government quarters and/or other administrative or disciplinary measures deemed appropriate by command.
3. Persons witnessing or suspecting a child's physical or mental health is harmed by abuse or neglect will telephone the Chief, Social Work Services, at 678-4992, during duty hours or the Military Police at 678-1234 during non duty hours. If a child is perceived to be in imminent danger, a call should be made directly to the Military Police at 678-1234.
4. Point of contact is Patricia Grace, Family Advocacy Program Manager, 678-2306.
5. This guidance supersedes CG-01-00, dated 24 Jan 00, and Memorandum, STEWS-CG, 6 Jun 95, subject: Youth Curfew.

STEVEN W. FLOHR  
Brigadier General, USA  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:  
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All Family Housing Occupants